Robert Donley, President Jessie Brantley, Vice President Chris Heard Dawn King

# **MINUTES**

City of Dickinson
Dickinson Economic
Development Corporation
SPECIAL MEETING

Mark Martelli, Secretary/Treasurer
Chad Rankin
Bill Schick
Scott Jones, Chief Executive Officer

**April 6, 2020** 

**NOTICE** is hereby given that a SPECIAL MEETING of the Dickinson Economic Development Corporation of the City of Dickinson, County of Galveston, State of Texas, was held by telephone conference at **6:30 p.m. on Monday, April 6, 2020** due to the pandemic known as "coronavirus disease 2019", also known as COVID-19. The SPECIAL MEETING is authorized to be held via telephone conference pursuant to Section 551.045 of the Texas Government Code because of the potential for loss of life to people and communities of the City of Dickinson resulting from the introduction, transmission, or spread (or imminent threat of the same) of COVID-19, and to advance the public health goal of limiting face-to-face meetings (also called "social distancing") to slow the spread of COVID-19. This convened SPECIAL MEETING conducted via telephone conference, would normally take place at Dickinson City Hall, 4403 Highway 3, Dickinson, Texas 77539. [There will be no public access to Dickinson City Hall for the meeting.] The Dickinson Economic Development Board, reserves the right to meet in a closed session on any of the below items should the need arise and if applicable pursuant to authorized by Title 5, Chapter 551, of the Texas Government Code.

## ITEM 1.) CALL TO ORDER AND CERTIFICATION OF A QUORUM

President Donley called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Board Members present were as follows: President Robert Donley, Board Members, Jessie Brantley, Mark Martelli, Bill Schick, Dawn King and Chris Heard. Also present were DEDC Chief Executive Officer Scott Jones, DEDC Attorney Beverly West. Absent was Board Member Chad Rankin.

PUBLIC COMMENT: At this time, any person with business related to Dickinson Economic Development Corporation may speak to the Board. Because the meeting is by telephone, rather than signing up, an announcement will be made asking the Public if anyone wishes to speak. Anyone wishing to speak should inform the Board of their names and will be placed on a list and permitted to speak in the order received. Comments from the public should be limited to a maximum of three (3) minutes per individual speaker. In compliance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, the Board may not deliberate or take action on items not on the agenda, but may consider placing the item on a future agenda if deliberation is necessary.

None.

# Approval of an Emergency Business Recovery and Expansion Grant Program under Section 505.158 of the Texas Local Government Code to assist Dickinson businesses to recover from business closures and economic losses due to the COVID-19 pandemic; appointing a grant committee; and all other matters related thereto.

President Robert Donley stated: Now it is time for the Public Hearing on the Project. I will read a summary of the project before public comment.

The Emergency Business Recovery and Expansion Grant Program is for the recovery and expansion of Dickinson businesses that have suffered due to the state of emergency caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Project will provide grant funds for the recovery or expansion of qualified businesses who have suffered financially from required business closures and shortened operating hours causing employee layoffs and terminations due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Eligible businesses must maintain a physical business address within the city limits of Dickinson that is not based in a home or residence and have fifty (50) or fewer employees. Qualified applicants will be eligible for grants paying up to two (2) months' salaries, rent, utilities, and other normal operating expenses up to a maximum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000). The total funding for the Project shall be capped at two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000). The Program includes job training for small businesses in finance and marketing.

Does anyone wish to provide public comment or testimony regarding the Emergency Business Recovery and Expansion Grant Program?

None.

# adoption of a Budget Amendment for the Emergency Business Recovery and Expansion Grant Program entitled: A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION FOR THE CITY OF DICKINSON ADOPTING BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 1; PROPOSING THE ADOPTED BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 1 FOR APPROVAL AND ADOPTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DICKINSON, TEXAS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The Board discussed at length the importance of the Emergency Business Recovery and Expansion Grant Program to assist local Dickinson businesses during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Board stressed the urgency to have the agreement approved quickly and implemented in order to benefit local Small Businesses during this epic crisis that will impact Dickinson Texas for many years to come.

Board Member Dawn King made a motion to approve the Dickinson Economic Development Corporation Budget Amendment for the Emergency Business Recovery and Expansion Grant Program. Board Member Bill Schick seconded. There being no further discussion President Donley called for the vote.

## **VOTE:**

6 AYES (Donley, Brantley, Heard, King, Martelli, Schick) 0 NAYS MOTION PASSED

## ITEM 5.) ADJOURN

Board Member Jessie Brantley made a motion to adjourn. Board Member Bill Schick seconded. President Donley called for a vote.

### **VOTE:**

6 AYES (Donley, Brantley, Heard, King, Martelli, Schick) 0 NAYS MOTION PASSED

The meeting adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

Robert Donley, President